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COMMITTEE REPORTS OF SUPERVISOR'S MEETING, JANUARY 20 TO 23, 1936

S.B. SHOW
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA
APRIL 4, 1936

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
CALIFORNIA REGION

ADDRESS REPLY TO
REGIONAL FORESTER
AND REFER TO

PHELAN BUILDING
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

D
Supervisors' Meeting
January, 1936.

April 4, 1936.
#156-D-2

FOREST OFFICERS - REGION FIVE:

There is transmitted herewith somewhat condensed copies of the Committee Reports developed at the Supervisors' meeting held January 20 to January 23, inclusive, in San Francisco.

Except insofar as modified by comment appearing at the end of certain reports, the action recommended is approved and should be carried into effect as soon as practicable by the Supervisors, and by the Regional Office divisions concerned.

Action requiring additional funds must, perforce, await appropriation and allotment. There is much, however, in the reports that permits immediate action through reallocation of present effort.

S B Show

Regional Forester.

Enclosure.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

of

SUPERVISORS' MEETING

January 20 to 23, 1936.
San Francisco, Calif.

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REPORT OF OPERATION COMMITTEE

W. Jones, Rogers, D. Nelson, Jefferson, Davis.

DeWitt Nelson, liaison officer, Ninth Corps Area, brought to the meeting Major McChrystal of the United States Army, Presidio of San Francisco. Major McChrystal gave a short talk on Forest Service and Army contact through the medium of the Civilian Conservation Corps. DeWitt Nelson also talked on the same subject. During the ensuing discussion both Major McChrystal and Mr. Nelson were called upon frequently to interpret regulations pertaining to CCC administration.

The following priorities of work classes were listed and accepted as a basis for determining the location of seventh period ECW camps:

1. Maintenance of existing improvements.
2. Fire control, presuppression and suppression.
3. Completion of unfinished projects in order of priority.

New Work:

1. Communication.
2. Camp ground.
3. Buildings.
4. Roads.
5. Miscellaneous.
6. Work not affecting National Forest management.

Spike Camps:

With a probable reduced number of CCC camps, it will be necessary to establish a large number of spike camps during the ensuing fire season. In order to make a spike camp program more acceptable to the Army, the following points are recommended to the Supervisors for consideration:

1. Prepare a well outlined program covering location and duration of spike camps; nature and necessity of work projects; type of accommodations available and plans for communication, supervision, inspection, etc., in cooperation with Company commanders.

2. Discuss this program with Camp Commanders and District Commanders and secure their approval.

3. Assign a first-class foreman to each spike camp.

4. Arrange for the assignment of well qualified enrollees to each spike camp.

5. Strict adherence to plans once formulated and approved is os-

sontial to the success of this program.

The Committee approved the general idea of reconsidering the distribution of the various work funds with the objective of adjusting this distribution to secure the most effective results. This may take the form of locating the majority of CCC companies in the South near work centers and allocating most of the FRD and other funds to the northern Forests.

The continued use of CCC suppression crews is recommended.

The utilization of CCC suppression crews on work projects is recommended.

More thorough training of CCC fire fighting units, in addition to the suppression crews, is recommended.

The matter of rating distribution was discussed. The committee finds that ratings are allocated by Director Fechner's office and that nothing can be done locally toward re-allocation.

The committee recommends that the Regional Office determine recreational mileage traveled by all ECF trucks during a specific three-months' period. This shall be exclusive of mileage between spike camps and main camps, and attached should be the operating cost per mile, excluding depreciation. Based on this data the Regional Office should request reimbursement by the Army for the recreational expenses indicated.

The Committee recommends that the Regional Office ascertain by the same method and for the same purpose the amount of mileage travelled on Army business by technical Service trucks.

The committee recommends that since the Forest Service must assume responsibility for unoccupied CCC camps, that funds be allotted for maintenance and that caretakers be retained in camps even when they are being used by other agencies.

The committee recommends that no more long time expensive engineering projects be undertaken under the CCC program with Forest camps. The Gibraltar Dam and Shasta Mud Flow projects are cited as examples of this.

We recommend that provision be made by means of a "Forest Worker" Civil Service classification for administrative guard positions. We feel that administrative guards are distinct and separate from trainees.

The committee recommends that maintenance sections of the Ponderosa Way be defined and allocated to the State, Counties and the

Forest Service for maintenance. A joint committee should be selected to handle the allocation.

State Forester Pratt was present and spoke favorably in regard to the above recommendation.

The committee recommends that the Regional Forester appoint a committee to study the problem of road numbering.

The committee recommends that the group consider carefully Mr. Jefferson's and Mr. Brown's comments on centralized equipment overhaul. Three methods of overhauling are available: (1) in local Forest Service shops; (2) on local contract; (3) the Bureau of Public Roads shops. The factors of cost and availability of Forest Service mechanics should dictate the method selected.

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R. O. Comment:

Some statement seems necessary to clear up questions about priorities of work. The priorities set up by the Committee are meant to be general Regional objectives. There may be specific unnamed projects on certain forests that would rank high in the list of new work. For example, an important drift fence on a certain Forest might rank ahead of a new campground.

By completion of old projects is meant completion of a usuable amount to standard. It does not mean, for example, that an entire road project, as designated on the transportation study, would have to be completed before new work is undertaken. It does mean completion to standard to some logical stopping place.

CCC Camps have been assigned for this spring on the basis of need as nearly as can be determined, without reference to the amount of FRD that may become available.

There may be situations where winter maintenance of roads is unavoidable. Such situations should be put up to the Regional Office for consideration.

The matter of preparing a comprehensive spike camp program as soon as the seventh period program becomes known is very important.

Cases may arise in the future where high priority but expensive engineering projects just must be handled by CCC camps if they are done at all. It is not anticipated there will be many of these, but the Regional Forester must reserve the right to embark on such projects if they appear to be administratively necessary.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON TIMBER MANAGEMENT

Hanson, Hall, Woodbury, Dunning.

I. Timber Sale Policy.

We recognize that stabilization of the lumber industry is socially and economically desirable and that limiting new mill installations in national forest timber may contribute materially, under certain circumstances, toward the securing of such stabilization. We also recognize, however, that there are large national forest virgin timber areas where the cut was once heavy that today are entirely inactive. In such localities it is our belief that benefits both to the local community and to forest conditions justify a moderate renewal of timber sale operations where sales can be made on a sustained yield basis, or where this is not attainable, on as long-term basis as possible. A thorough analysis of such situations showing clearly the advantages to be gained should be made by Forest Supervisors. Proposals for new operations should be presented to the Regional Forester for consideration before any commitments are made to applicants.

II. Management Plans and Policy Statements:

A recent survey shows that most of the Region 5 management plans and policy statements were prepared more than ten years ago, and that no revisions or additional plans have been made for several years. Timber conditions, logging methods, road systems, and objectives have changed considerably during this period.

It is recommended that an aggressive effort be made to revise present plans and policy statements systematically and to prepare new plans for those Forests where timber resources are important.

It is recommended that a small corps of young Junior Foresters be secured and trained to assist Supervisors and Senior Forest Technicians in this work. One such man should be assigned to each Forest where management plan problems are pressing, with the understanding that he will be used exclusively on this activity.

The Office of Timberland Cooperation in the Regional Office, and the California Forest and Range Experiment Station, are prepared to render assistance in the initiation and preparation of plans. However, this work is a Supervisor's' responsibility and Supervisors should request funds for carrying it on when allotment estimates are submitted.

For units in which government stumpage may exercise control over private timber in some measure, an aggressive effort should be made to secure the active interest and cooperation of the private owner or operator, so that the plan may apply to the largest possible amount of timber within the working circle. Special attention should be given to private timber available to an existing sawmill but not controlled

by the owner of the mill. Such holdings often are the basis for new unregulated operations. Careful attention also should be given to timber not near an operation under management but which, due to its ownership, may be of critical importance.

It is the feeling of the group that in our acquisition program high priority should be accorded key tracts of timber, the control of which is essential to regulation of cut.

III. Forest Insect Control.

The results of insect control measures in the northeastern portions of California have led entomologists to a rather definite opinion that the usual method of cutting, peeling and burning is of limited control value. It is questionable whether efforts should be continued along the old lines in that part of the State. It is recommended that there the method of salvage control whereby insect-infested timber is logged before it becomes worthless because of bluestain should be thoroughly tried. Recent tests indicate that insect-killed trees frequently can be logged at a profit.

It is still considered that the method of cutting, peeling, and burning is useful on the west side of the Sierra and should be continued where infestations are found to be seriously epidemic. Salvage control should be undertaken on the west slope of the Sierra also where possible.

It is recommended that the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine continue to conduct and finance annual inspections and surveys in the pine region, submitting reports to the Forest Service and to private owners.

The Bureau's recommendations as to where control measures are necessary should be the basis for any control work undertaken by the Forest Service.

IV. Brushfield Reforestation:

The subject of brushfield reforestation was not discussed in open meeting. However, the committee considers the subject of sufficient importance to justify presenting to the Supervisors for consideration the following proposals:

Reforestation in the timbered forests of Region 5 should be limited to non-restocking areas occupied by transition brush and to favorable sites in new burns which will not restock naturally.

The method of eradicating the brush in strips by machinery and planting offers most promise of success.

For the next few years reforestation in brush fields should be

confined to the more favorable sites topographically suited to the use of heavy machinery.

Research should be continued to develop new types of implements and equipment suited to brush eradication.

Brush burning alone and in conjunction with machine eradication should be given further trial on an experimental basis.

The use of chemicals should be given further trial.

Before embarking on an extended program of reforestation, a thorough investigation and analysis of recent results should be made.

Research as to the influence of rodents and methods of rodent control should be actively prosecuted by the Biological Survey.

The difficulties encountered in reforestation in California indicate the desirability of a comprehensive program of fundamental research leading to reclamation of deforested areas and prevention of further deterioration of timbered sites. It is suggested that the Director of the California Forest and Range Experiment Station undertake such research in the near future.

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R. O. Comment:

The extent to which additional personnel for timber management planning can be provided is unknown at this time. This work will rate as one of high priority in the allocation of any new funds that may become available.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON WILD LIFE AND RANGE MANAGEMENT

Beeson, Boothe, Talbot, Cronemiller (absent).

I. The committee wishes to express regret that Assistant Regional Forester Cronemiller could not be present at the meeting. We should like to have had his counsel and to have considered questions on which he might wish the opinions of the Forest Supervisors.

II. The value of stream survey work as conducted on the Klamath, Sierra, and Inyo National Forests by the U. S. Bureau of Fisheries has been fully established. We wish to commend Dr. Paul R. Needham for the excellent manner in which this work has been handled and hope that the work can be extended in the near future to all forests where this work is needed.

III. The committee believes the need for the Forest Service to take a more active part in fish and game management in California is apparent. If fishing and hunting is to be maintained, the interests and activities of all agencies must be fostered and coordinated. The assignment of a fish and game specialist in the Branch of Wild Life and Range Management is opportune and the increased interest shown generally by the rank and file of the Forest Service in fish and game work is very encouraging.

IV. We are thoroughly in accord with grazing policy as set forth in the Forester's letter of February 8, 1935. In view of adjustments which are necessary as a result of the prolonged drought period and the need for reconsideration of policy governing distribution of grazing privileges, we endorse designating the period 1935-1939 as an adjustment period.

V. After a thorough discussion of the Taylor Grazing Act Administration, it was the consensus of opinion that we should cooperate with local administration of the grazing Division to the fullest extent compatible with administrative freedom in the enforcement of Forest Service grazing regulations and policies.

It was brought out during the discussion of cooperation between the Grazing Service and the Forest Service that stockmen have requested the opinion of Forest Officers on various phases of Grazing Service administration. The general opinion was expressed that we should carefully refrain from expressing any criticism of the Department of the Interior, Grazing Service Administration.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RECREATION AND LANDS

Bachman, Smith, Barrett, Wieslander, Barnum.

I. Priorities in Forest Land Acquisition.

Supervisors will determine and submit priorities for acquisition for their respective Forests. The Regional Forester will, after consultation with the assistants in charge of various divisions, set up the regional priorities based on the following factors:

A. Maintaining social and economic units.

B. Lands most liable to be mismanaged, (recreation, timber, grazing, wild life, etc.) under private ownership.

C. Lands which will be enhanced in value due to government development - programmed or recommended.

D. Lands which have ample revenue producing resources, (that through utilization under good management) will be self-liquidating.

E. Forced liquidation of private timber land, (offered at bargain prices).

NOTE: (The discussion brought out the desirability of land appraisals going beyond the soil production values and urges the consideration of the social and administrative advantages to the public and Forest Service. To justify this public benefit, a lower rate of interest should be used and accepted).

II. Objectives in Recreational Development.

Recreational development in the National Forests should provide:

A. Recreational facilities for use by the masses rather than the privileged few or special groups.

B. Facilities for sanitation and protection of health. Any additional development should be limited to bare conveniences.

C. Sufficient areas to meet future recreational requirement of the masses. No tract should be dedicated to exclusive use, (special use permit to individual groups) unless conclusive data is available to ascertain the future public requirement.

D. A work program that keeps development slightly ahead of public demand and prevents over-development.

III. Dr. Waugh's Report.

A. Recreational engineers should be provided on all forests having heavy recreation use.

B. There is an urgent need for Forest and Regional recreation management plans.

C. There is a recognized need for full time attendants at heavily used camp grounds or to take care of a series of small camp grounds aggregating major consideration.

D. The duties of the recreation attendant should be segregated from that of the fire guard job.

E. The majority of the group expressed disapproval of Dr. Waugh's suggestion to charge for camping privileges.

E. In lieu of a charge for recreational use the majority favored granting of concessions for camp ground privileges, (undeveloped sites) where intensive use will result. This practice would be similar to the Park concession procedure to be developed under Forest Service direction.

IV. Treatment of Primitive Areas.

A. Recommend adherence to established policy governing primitive areas. Permit the development of only the minimum of essential protection improvements, (private or governmental), and limit transportation facilities to the construction of trails only.

B. Make a review of established Primitive Area boundaries with a view of enlargement in some cases, and in others minor adjustments to correct apparent protection and administrative problems.

C. When Primitive Areas contain extensive acreage of high inflammability, the protection problem should be recognized and an intensive fire protective plan developed. This plan should indicate the requirements to assure regional protection standards and provide for the minimum number and location of trail crews, mounted fire guards and patrolmen.

D. The majority favored no encroachment on established Primitive Areas.

E. The recreational development program should provide only the necessary sanitation facilities to protect public health and not provide the recreational conveniences found at developed camp sites.

V. Natural Areas.

The Committee wishes to bring to attention Mr. Barrett's statement concerning the proposed program of setting aside natural areas on the National Forests. Refer to letter L-Classification, Natural Areas and Experimental Forests, June 19, 1931". Progress in these selections should be made during the 1936 field season and the program completed at the earliest practical date. Further instruction in regard to this work will be from the office of Recreation and Lands.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FOREST FIRE CONTROL

Ellis, Nash-Boulden, Morse, Curry.

I. Fire Prevention.

A. Fire Prevention Officer.

The experience of the past years shows the value of specialized officers to train and supplement the regular force in law enforcement and other problems in fire prevention. The committee recommends the employment of a corps of not less than nine regular year-long officers to be distributed among the National Forests in accordance with the fire prevention needs. It is recommended that such employees be known as Fire Prevention Officers.

B. Checking Stations and Patrol.

Checking stations at main entrances to National Forests and patrol along main routes of travel have shown unquestionable results in fire prevention. The committee, therefore, recommends their largely increased use. Careful consideration should be given to the selection, training, uniforming, and personal appearance of both classes of employees. It is further recommended that attractive stations be provided for these purposes.

C. Hazard and Risk Reduction Plan.

To promote better fire prevention consciousness by District Rangers and to effectively provide for abatement of all hazards, it is recommended that a Fire Prevention Plan be made for each ranger district, which will list all hazards and risks and set up definite provisions and dates for their abatement.

D. Contacts.

Fire prevention can be better obtained by securing the good will of local residents, users, key men, the press and other groups, by giving to them the correct conceptions of the values of the forest to local needs and industries.

E. Federal Misdemeanor Cases.

Under the present law, Federal misdemeanor prosecutions are so delayed that the value received from convictions is largely lost; revisions are necessary.

F. Regulations.

1. Shovel and Axe.

It is recommended that each Forest Supervisor be empowered

to designate by posting certain improved picnicking grounds where fires may be built in stoves without the shovel and axe requirement.

2. No Smoking.

It is recommended that consideration be given to changes in the no smoking regulation which will make it more definite and enforceable. If the no smoking regulation is to be continued, adequate fag stations must be provided on all Forests and the regulation must be rigidly enforced.

3. Fire Permit.

It is recommended the Fire Permit be completely revised and more effort be made to have them issued by Forest Officers.

II. Organization for Bad Years.

A. Fire Control Manual.

It is recommended that a Regional Fire Control Manual be prepared at the earliest possible date.

B. Tightening Up.

It is recommended every pre-season effort should be made to organize and train outside men, physically fit for fire suppression, to supplement the CCC and other Forest Service organized crews in fire emergencies.

C. Actual Fire Training for Year-long and Guard Personnel.

Pre-season plans by neighboring Forests for interchange of personnel for training purposes on going fires is recommended.

D. Calls for Help.

It is recommended such calls should not be made on neighboring Forests and other agencies without first having seriously reduced one's own forces. Ordinarily we should not send our crews on outside fires, unless it is reasonably felt outside fires will endanger the forest.

E. Dispatching.

Dispatching technique is considered as an important factor in successful and economic fire control. Emphasis is to be placed on the selection of men thoroughly experienced in the rapidity with which fires may spread under varying conditions, that they may exercise the best judgment in "manning" fires. (See Mr. Headley's letter of Jan. 12, 1936)

F. Use of F. F.

Seriousness of bad years or periods justifies liberal use of F.F. such as for 24-hour lookout service, and men to accomplish District Ranger paper work, thus allowing the District Ranger to concentrate on inspection and pepping up of fire personnel.

III. Equipment Needs.

A. Tank Wagons.

Immediate need is recognized for tank wagons principally of medium (180-gallon) capacity, over the entire Region. They should be purchased and provision made for manning them as rapidly as possible; and stationed with greater intensity than was set up in the transportation plans.

B. Radios.

Fire control has been tremendously advanced thru the use of radio, and each Forest needs more equipment.

C. Power Equipment.

It is recommended more trailbuilder units with means of rapid transportation be provided for Forests with terrain adapted to this method of line construction.

D. Portable Equipment for Camps.

The committee recommends the Region experiment with portable lighting outfits and portable oil stoves for fire camp use.

E. Water Storage.

The committee recommends further experimentation with the water storage idea on dry ridges, by "catchment" areas.

IV. CCC for Suppression.

A. The committee recommends training and more training of all members of the CCC and not simply the 1st and 2nd suppression crews. Also that all crews be tied in either by telephone or radio.

B. The committee recommends that strictly standby crews be reduced to a minimum, but that top crews be located on work projects in close proximity of fire occurrence zones, working but 4 hours per day in extremely bad weather. The other 2 hours, however, should be gainfully employed in training.

C. More "spiking" is recommended for the 7th period and the committee feels best results may be obtained in securing spikes by selling the idea to both C. O. and District Commanders. The Forest Service has the responsibility of supplying only "top-notch" foremen for "spikes" in order that burdensome inspection by the Army may be reduced, and that top morale may be maintained.

D. Greater use of 4-men detachments is recommended, (which do not count as spikes) to operate lookouts, tank wagons, etc. The committee feels that F. F. should be used to augment the Army rations for these crews.

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R. O. Comment:

Topic I, paragraph A:

The stabilization of the special fire prevention force depends upon, aside from funds, the establishment of a forest worker grade broad enough to include specialists in this activity.

Topic I, paragraph F (1):

We shall be glad to consider definite recommendations.

Topic I, paragraph F (2):

While recognizing the undesirable features of the present no smoking regulation, it will be continued during the coming season. Fire control will endeavor to secure data from other Regions using different methods of control.

Topic I, paragraph F (3):

As explained at the meeting, we shall have to use the old permit form this year.

Topic II, paragraph D:

The general idea behind this recommendation is approved, but in specific cases it boils down to a matter of fair play and adequate attack. The fire already going is a greater threat than the one that may start, and inter-forest boundaries must not act as barriers against the most prompt and adequate attack. For ourside fires of a grave nature, a more liberal policy should be taken in connection with CCC help than for forces employed from FF. In cases of doubt, the Regional Office will be glad to advise.

Topic II, paragraph F:

F. F. should not be used to employ Ranger District clerks, except temporarily, (if necessary) in connection with large fires.

Topic IV, paragraph D:

Possibly arrangements can be made to relieve from regular protection funds the ration difficulty at small side camps. Will each Forest concerned put up its program with estimates of cost?

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND INFORMATION

Elliott, Maule, Hutchinson

I. "Window Dressing" for our Activities:

We appreciate the lack of showmanship in much of our work, the need for more "window dressing" of our activities and the necessity for quarters and improvements which will adequately uphold the dignity of the Forest Service so that the users of and visitors to the National Forests may have a high opinion of the purposes and results of Forest Service objectives and management, and

We recommend:

A. That immediate steps be taken and necessary funds provided to improve the appearance and make attractive the headquarters and offices of forest supervisors, rangers, guards, lookout stations, and all offices and buildings so that they may become show places as well as work places; and also the improvement of entrance signs to National Forests.

B. That greater use be made of exhibits, relief maps, signs, map folders, and other publicity media of interest and use to National Forest visitors, as window dressing for our resources and activities, and for the education of the public in Forest Service work.

C. That more attention be given to pride in personal appearance and that all Forest Service employees, regardless of rank, be required to maintain standards of dress in keeping with Service regulations and their job.

II. CCC Educational Program.

We recognize that the educational program for CCC enrollees now being carried on by the Office of Education under the supervision of the Army places a definite responsibility on all Forest Service officers, camp superintendents and facilitating personnel, and

We realize that the cause of forest conservation will be advanced by teaching enrollees about the work of the Forest Service, and job training of enrollees will result in an increased accomplishment as well as in experience of practical value to enrollees after they leave the CCC; and we, therefore, recommend:

A. That the vocational training of men on forest development projects be considered a part of the duties of camp superintendents and foreman and that provision be made for field instruction of the men on all jobs.

B. That vocational classes that can be definitely tied in with local field activities be conducted in camps by superintendents and

foremen with the assistance of local Forest Service officers, wherever this will produce practical results.

C. That a careful investigation be made at once of all CCC forestry educational activities with a view of determining what part the Forest Service and its employees can best take to more fully redeem our responsibility in carrying out the Forester's policy of CCC education.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PERSONNEL

Benedict, F. Price, Deering.

Because of the very limited amount of time, the discussion pertaining to personnel was of necessity sharply restricted.

I. Ranger Training Districts.

It is generally agreed that the Ranger Districts that have been selected as training districts have a work load that under present personnel precludes the possibility of doing a real job of assistant ranger's training. It is the opinion of the group that these men should be given both clerical and worker help so that the trainee could associate himself with the District Ranger very closely in order that his training would be of a broader nature. It is also agreed that the District Ranger should be given some special training in developing his capacity to teach the man assigned to him for training purposes. It was generally conceded that there was a lack of plans on the Forest for rounding out the experience of the trainee and that there was need for periodic check by the supervisor of the progress of the training efforts.

II. Advanced Training.

The need for advanced training was fully recognized as applied to all grades, but the short training course as exemplified by the Assistant Supervisors' School should be preceded by a rather broad training on the job, its value being to test the mental capacity of the individual and to point up the deficiencies of his training. Such deficiencies should, of course, be supplied immediately after this course is given. It was brought out that the specific details to the Regional Office or Washington were invaluable and that this could be extended to the field by having District Rangers detailed to the Supervisor's Office for administrative training.

III. Forest Worker Classification.

Tied up with the discussion of the Forest Worker classification is a question of organization which warrants much more consideration than time permitted, but it was generally agreed that whatever type of organization was best fitted for Forest Administration, that classification was an essential factor. It was especially stressed that if the District Ranger was to function according to his job description, he must have some sort of staff, an essential part of which will be the Forest Worker. The Supervisors generally agreed that we couldn't stress too strongly the need of this classification.

It was also generally agreed that at the next meeting we should spend considerable time in thorough discussion of organization. Because of time limitation no discussion was made of the topic "Inspection of

Personnel", and many feel that because of the time limitation this whole subject was covered in a rather unsatisfactory manner and quite properly this entire subject should receive very serious consideration from the group meetings.

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R. O. Comment:

The comments on ranger training districts are to the point, and plans are under way to better the selection of District Rangers having training assistants, to give them special instruction in training, and eventually to adjust the work load.

The establishment of a Forest Worker classification is to be taken up with the W. O. Further discussion by the group committees of personnel and organization matters, particularly those concerning the Ranger District, is urged.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ENGINEERING

Mendenhall, Cunningham, Kramer, Kraebel.

I. Relations With Other Agencies.

A. Location of Roads

Experience has shown that roads which are unsatisfactory due to bad location have resulted from the fact that the Supervisor was not informed early enough about the road project, he doubted his authority to interfere, or he lacked appreciation of the important control which he might exert.

This situation would be corrected if all Supervisors understood clearly that they have a direct responsibility for new road projects from the time they are first proposed until the road is completed. The Supervisor should be alert to exercise this authority and should assume this responsibility from the very inception of a proposal to build a new road, or to change the route or otherwise improve an old road. He should not wait until the surveys, even preliminary surveys, are made, or brush clearing has begun, before taking a hand in the project. This policy is part and parcel of the general Service policy that a Supervisor is the responsible manager of the National Forest, and as such should feel that the Forest cannot be disturbed in any way by any project without his prior knowledge and approval. In other words, the Supervisor should insist on understanding thoroughly everything that is proposed within his territory, whether it is to be done by his own organization or any outside organization such as the State, local counties, or some other Federal agency.

The specific considerations which control the location of a new road or major changes in an old road may be described as various kinds of "control".

1. Engineering Principles.
2. Topographic (saddle, cliffs, etc.)
3. Administrative (operation, protection, etc.)
4. Economic or Political Cooperation.
   (tie-up with State Highways, etc.)
5. Scenic Features.
6. Landscape, recreational sites.
7. Erosion.

A properly located road will have the benefit of thorough consideration of all these "controls". No doubt that will require that the proposed location in the field be studied, preferably simultaneously by the Supervisor or his qualified representative, the Office of Engineering, a qualified landscape forester, the promoters of the highway, and the cooperating road-building agency.

It is appreciated that this policy has been followed more or less in the past. It is our purpose now to recommend that the policy be crystallized and accepted by the Supervisors as an obligatory procedure on all road projects.

It is further recommended that the Regional Forester instruct the Forest Supervisors as soon as any project is approved for construction by the Bureau of Public Roads and insist upon close supervision and contacts with the Bureau Resident Engineer on the project. We feel that the field has been lax in contacts with the Resident Engineer and has overlooked a chance to promote more favorable relations as well as a chance to sell the Forestry viewpoint to road engineers.

Execution of this plan places a direct responsibility on the field force, and particularly on the District Rangers, to be alert, and observe and report all activities within their Districts. The District Ranger, probably better than anyone else, should know as soon as anyone what action is being proposed by his neighbors or the local community. Occasionally the Supervisor himself, through his community contacts, will be able to learn of proposed projects. It cannot be taken for granted that all Supervisors and Rangers will do this without definite instructions, and for that reason it is felt necessary to emphasize the point in this report. It is recommended that this policy be issued in the form of circular instructions from the Regional Forester.

It is further recommended that the Regional Engineer, through the Regional Forester's office, notify the State Division of Highways and emphasize the fact that the Forest Service intends to exercise this complete control. The Forest Supervisors must assume the responsibility of notifying the respective county boards of supervisors or other agencies constructing roads in their Forests.

To summarize, the procedure to be followed on any new road project would be somewhat as follows:

1. District Ranger or Supervisor learns about a road proposed by the local Chamber of Commerce or other organization.

2. Ranger reports to Supervisor, or Supervisor consults with Ranger, and together they make a study of the purpose to be served by the road and decide whether the proposed road fits in with their own development plan for the Forest. This study may reveal that another location, or another road within a few miles which they require, might serve the same purpose, or that no road is needed at all in that particular location.

3. If preliminary study reveals that the project requires action on the part of the Regional Office a complete report on the merits of the road and its effect on the administration of the Forest will be made to the Regional Forester.

4. The Regional Engineer will review the report and decide as to the necessity of a field investigation, and as to the necessity of calling a conference of all the road-building agencies affected by the project.

5. If the study thus far indicates that the road will be approved, the Regional Engineer will then call for a field study, in which all the controlling considerations will be given full weight.

6. Following this study the various technicians will submit a joint report embodying the minimum requirements under which the road must be constructed.

7. Permit will be issued or special provisions drawn up covering all requirements.

8. Enforcement of all stipulations through frequent inspection and close contact with Resident Engineer.

II. Permits.

A. Construction.

The Committee feels the necessity of including in the stipulations or permits issued to State, county or other agencies the following:

1. Stipulation that will provide for adequate drainage and erosion control treatment.

2. Adequate protection against disturbance of the beauty features of the road.

3. Adequate clean-up of waste material by proper disposal of excess material.

4. A resident patrolman. The Bureau of Public Roads agrees to revise the standard provision on this, and will approve.

5. Standards of construction.

6. Maintenance.

and a new set of standard stipulations to be drafted by the Regional Forester to cover these new practices.

B. Maintenance or Betterment.

This work on existing roads often involves major operations such as cutting back banks, borrowing in large quantities of material for broken fills, relocation of sections of the road, and widening, which will involve disturbance of re-vegetated slopes, or any other activity

which will create additional disfiguration of the Forest, and in each instance should be placed under permit.

Probably in this same category should be placed the erection of minor structures such as tool houses, stock pile sheds, water tanks, and other miscellaneous structures. To all such activity the District Ranger should be alert, and see that the conditions of the permit in this respect are strictly observed.

The Committee believes that the objective to be aimed at here is to have it generally understood among road-building agencies, county boards, etc., that when such activities are contemplated the approval of the Forest Supervisor must first be obtained, and before work is started the permit with the necessary stipulations will be required.

III. Erosion Control.

A. Roadside Features and Co-ordination with Landscaping.

It is possible that there is a desire on the part of other agencies to obtain control of the 200-foot strip on either side of highways for the purpose of directing the landscaping and beautification work as well as erosion control and other use. In order to retain control of this strip Forest officers must give it the attention it deserves.

If this activity is designated henceforth as "Roadside Planning for Erosion Control and Restoration of Scenic Values or Elimination of Scars" the activity can be defended as a strictly forestry technic. At the same time, since the work will be limited to actual road slopes on disturbed soil within the road right-of-way, it should be financed by road funds. It is obviously the responsibility of the Forest Service to see that proper erosion protection is provided and that it is co-ordinated with a satisfactory landscape plan, and it is further the responsibility of the Forest Service to make a plan for erosion control work on each project, and with the aid of the bureau engineers see that it is carried out.

Since it is a known fact that in many cases the jobs of erosion control, re-vegetation of slopes, and landscaping, can be greatly simplified, if the original location of the road is made with the object of minimizing the disturbance and reducing the quantity of excavated material, the Committee feels that the Forest Service should place more emphasis on these factors in exercising their control over location surveys.

B. Erosion Control - Other than Highway.

It is the opinion of the Committee that to date the major part of erosion control work on the National Forests in this region has been headed up by the California Experiment Station, and in many instances they have had to assume the responsibility of directing the work. Since

the Station has provided us with advice as to methods, plans, and training in the work, it seems now that this activity should be recognized as an administrative responsibility on each Forest, and with the aid of Engineering and the Experiment Station, a qualified man should be trained on each Forest to head up this work. At least, this should be done on Forests that now have a problem in erosion control, and the practice extended to other Forests as the erosion control problem develops.

There is a real need for much erosion control work on our own minor road system, and the southern California Forests need to consider this work as of major importance; if a man on the Supervisor's staff is trained in this work he should also be responsible for carrying out the instructions in the Forester's Truck Trail Handbook, paragraphs 407, 408, and 409, on page 405, dealing with roadside beautification on truck trails, as well as clearing for hazard reduction.

While it may be aside from the erosion control problem, we feel that the roadside beautification instructions should be modified on truck trails that are closed to public travel, and that all vegetation except such as creates an extreme fire hazard or is necessarily removed for construction should be left in place as an aid to erosion control.

C. Erosion Protection from Burned Areas:

In connection with the erosion control work necessary on burned areas, especially on the four southern Forests, in addition to our obvious obligation to re-vegetate the area, it will be considered necessary to preserve the natural condition of the canyons within the Forest boundary. This should be considered a Forest Service responsibility.

Example: During the Montrose flood, Pickens Canyon was scoured to a depth of seven to ten feet. Canyon bottom trees were carried away and the charm of this canyon as a recreational area was seriously damaged. The loss of soil in this canyon, which could have been saved by proper canyon-bottom control dams, was at the rate of 20,000 cubic yards per linear mile of channel.

It is agreed by the committee that we should aid in the prevention of major disasters of this nature, but we feel that with our limited emergency funds we should confine our activities to revegetation and stream channel protection, and not undertake the construction of major structures running in cost from $25,000 upward unless special funds are provided by legislation, or from some other source, for this purpose.

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R. O. Comment:

More contact on the ground with the representatives of other agencies, and with plans prepared in advance covering erosion control and preservation of roadside attractiveness, will eliminate much of the past difficulty. Responsibility for seeing that such plans are properly prepared and carried out is definitely our own.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON
ORGANIZATION AND FUNCTIONING OF
SUPERVISOR GROUP COMMITTEES

Bigelow, T. Jones.

I. Assignment of Regional subjects will be presented by the Regional Forester to Group Chairmen and copies sent all Supervisors.

II. Subjects of local group interest will be presented for discussion by group members to the Chairmen.

III. Meetings: Meetings to be held quarterly at call of Chairmen and at place designated by them.

IV. Quarterly meetings of Chairmen with Regional Forester will be at his direction and notice of the meeting given far enough in advance to permit of holding the necessary group meetings in advance of the Regional meeting of Chairmen.

Regional subjects will be given to committees at time of notice of these meetings.

V. Group meetings will usually consist of a field trip, to inspect work pertaining to subjects under consideration to be followed by full discussion of such subjects. Quarterly meetings should ordinarily consist of three days, two of which are spent in the field.

VI. Reports: Full reports by group committees will be submitted to Regional Forester and copies sent to all Supervisors.

Reports by Committees should be submitted to the Regional Forester at least one week prior to date set for Regional meeting.

VII. Election of Officers: At the conclusion of each group meeting the Chairmen for the next quarter will be chosen by the majority vote of the groups, the Secretaries for the groups being chosen by the Chairmen.

VIII. The Regional Forester will be notified as to selection of Chairmen for the next quarter.

IX. Duties of the Group Chairmen:

A. Arrange time, place, and program of meeting and field trips.

B. Be responsible to Regional Forester and other members of the group for full and correct report.

C. Represent the group at meetings of the Chairmen with Regional Forester.

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R. O. Comments:

While the Regional Forester may, from time to time, submit topics for discussion and report by the various groups, the Supervisors will be expected to initiate consideration of matters of general interest as well as subjects of purely local application. The Regional Forester wants your advice, after due deliberation, on any or all subjects of Regional or Service-wide interest.